Reception Room

COTTON CHATS

DRAPER COMPANY

TRADE-MARK REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

HOPEDALE, MASS.

NO. 167. SEPTEMBER. 1916.

THE HIGHER THE WAGES AND THE SCARCER OR MORE INEXPERIENCED THE HELP, THE GREATER ARE THE PROPORTIONAL ADVANTAGES OF NORTHROP AUTOMATIC LOOMS.

FOOD FOR SERIOUS THOUGHT

is contained in the following from The Manufacturers Record, Baltimore, Maryland, of August tenth:

"LABOR SHORTAGE SHOULD BE MET BY LABOR-SAVING MACHINERY.

Wherever possible, machinery should be made to supplant manual labor if we are to meet competition with Europe.

So great is the scarcity of labor throughout the country that Eastern interests, including railroads, are striving in every way possible to tempt labor away from the South. Western iron interests are taking men from the Birmingham district. Eastern railroads, according to Savannah reports, have recently taken more than a thousand negroes from that section on special trains, while efforts are being made to get other thousands away. The struggle for labor is the fight of the hour in this country, and, as immigration will probably be small for some years to come, the contest for labor will grow in intensity.

Only through the largest utilization of labor-saving machinery of every kind will it be possible for manufacturers to meet this labor shortage without serious loss.

While Europe is bending every energy toward the highest possible efficiency in death-dealing devices, it should be our effort to bend every possible energy to the highest development of labor-saving improvements in order that manual labor, wherever feasible, be supplanted or aided by mechanical labor. In doing this the laborer is

benefited and the industries of the country saved from a situation which seriously threatens their continued expansion and prosperity.

The manufacturers of the country should not wait until the labor shortage has become so acute as to endanger their business, but should begin now to work out plans for labor-saving devices wherever this can be done to advantage. The engineers and the machinery dealers of the country should turn their attention to a study of new ways of lessening the amount of manual labor and of creating new forms of machinery or new adaptations of equipment or inventions to take the place of manual labor.

We have, with our accustomed national spirit of vain-glory, boasted of our ability to capture the world's trade away from Europe. In this we have aroused the resentment of the nations of Europe who feel that while they are fighting a life-and-death struggle we are trying to stab them in the back by boasting of our ability to capture from them the trade upon which their prosperity depends. We are making no friends, but many enemies, by this vain-glorious boasting.

At the close of the war Europe will be stimulated by its necessities as never before to produce at the lowest cost. Its industries will have developed an efficiency never dreamed of before, and back of all of this will be the spirit to conquer the world trade against us, stimulated not only by their necessities, but by our threats to take the trade from them.

The people of this country do not seem to have measured this situation properly from any standpoint, either that of industrial preparedness or of national preparedness."

THE UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

in its Immigration Bulletin for July 1916 gives the following figures as the number of immigrants to this country for the ten years each ending June 30 as follows:

1905	1,026,499
1906	1,100,735
1907	1,285,349
1908	782,870
1909	751,786
1910	1,041,570
1911	878,587
1912	838,172
1913	1,197,892
1914	1,218,480
Total for the ten years	10,121,940
Average per annum	1,012,194

The corresponding figures for the years 1915 and 1916 are

1915	326,700
1916	298,826

From these last figures deductions must be made for emigrants departed

1915	204,074
1916	129,765
Net average immigrants per annum for 1915 and 1916	145,844

The above statistics emphasize the importance to manufacturers of the use of automatic machinery.